

Message Text

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ACTION MMO-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 PER-01 ABF-01
NSC-05 OMB-01 INR-07 USIA-06 COME-00 PC-01 DODE-00
/054 W

-----128673 071930Z /47

R 071350Z SEP 77

FM AMEMBASSY VALLETTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7609

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FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AODE

SUBJECT: EVALUATION OF PERSONNEL LEVELS

REF: STATE 201122,

1. THIS EMBASSY LAST PROVIDED AN ASSESSMENT OF ITS PERSONNEL LEVELS AS A PART OF ITS ANNUAL POLICY AND RESOURCE ASSESSMENT. SEE VALLETTA'S 0380 OF APRIL 4, 1977.

2. THAT ASSESSMENT CONCLUDED, AFTER NOTING THAT VALLETTA HAD ELIMINATED TWO AMERICAN POSITIONS IN 1974, ONE IN 1975, AND ONE IN 1976, THAT EMBASSY STAFFING IS NOW AT A MINIMUM LEVEL FOR EFFECTIVE OPERATIONS AND THAT ANY FURTHER REDUCTIONS WOULD ADVERSELY AFFECT THE EMBASSY'S ABILITY TO CARRY OUT ITS RESPONSIBILITIES.

3. THAT REMAINS OUR POSITION. WITH THE ONE-MAN ARRANGEMENT WE NOW OPERATE ON IN ALL SECTIONS, WE CAN'T COME UP WITH 85 AND 95 PER CENT ALTERNATIVES WITHOUT CUTTING OUT THE SECTIONS ENTIRELY. I HAVE A DCM WHO IS ALSO MY POLITICAL OFFICER. I HAVE ONE ECONOMIC

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OFFICER, SUPPORTED BY ONE FSL, FOCUSING ON OUR EFFORTS TO PROTECT AND ENCOURAGE U.S. INVESTMENT HERE - OF KEY IMPORTANCE TO OUR FUTURE POLITICAL POSITION IN MALTA. I HAVE AN ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER WHO LAST YEAR ALSO TOOK ON THE CONSULAR DUTIES OF THIS EMBASSY. I DO NOT RECOMMEND REDUCTIONS IN OUR SMALL FSL CONTINGENTS IN THOSE SECTIONS.

4. AS FAR AS OTHER AGENCIES ARE CONCERNED, WE HAVE
A ONE-MAN USIS OPERATION WHICH CANNOT BE REDUCED UNLESS
WE WANT TO CUT OUT THE WORK WHICH USIS IS DOING. I DON'T.
IT IS CENTRAL TO OUR GROUND-HOLDING OPERATION HERE, LOOKING
TO A FUTURE WHEN THE POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT COULD IMPROVE;
ITS PROGRAMMING AND PLACEMENT ACTIVITIES WERE DESCRIBED
IN A JUST COMPLETED USIS INSPECTION AS "UNUSUALLY COST
EFFECTIVE."

5. THE PEACE CORPS HAS ONE PCV IN MALTA. WE ARE IN
CONSULTATIONS WITH THE GOM AS TO THEIR INTEREST IN
REPLACEMENT AND A POSSIBLE MODEST EXPANSION OF THE PC PRESENCE.

6. THE ONLY OTHER U.S. PRESENCE HERE IS THE DAO, CONSISTING
OF THE DEFENSE ATTACHE, ONE ENLISTED ADMIN ASSISTANT, AND
ONE FSL DRIVER. A SECOND ADMIN ASSISTANT WAS ELIMINATED
THIS PAST SUMMER. I WILL BE ADDRESSING THE QUESTION OF
THE FUTURE OF THIS OFFICE SEPARATELY, BUT MY PRESENT
VIEW IS THAT IT WOULD BE POLITICALLY DISADVANTAGEOUS
TO ELIMINATE DAO VALLETTA AT A TIME WHEN THE FUTURE
POLITICAL/SECURITY STATUS OF MALTA IS NOT YET DETERMINED
AND IN ANY EVENT NOT PRIOR TO THE END OF THE NATO
RENTAL ARRANGEMENT (PARTIALLY U.S. FINANCED) IN MARCH 1979,
COINCIDING WITH THE FINAL DEPARTURE OF THE BRITISH MILITARY
PRESENCE ON MALTA. THAT WILL REQUIRE SCHEDULING A REPLACE-
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MENT FOR THE PRESENT DAO, WHOSE ASSIGNMENT HERE WILL
TERMINATE IN MID-1978. LAINGEN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 07-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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Film Number: D770324-0054
Format: TEL
From: VALLETTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770989/aaaacwvq.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 9d83aa4a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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SAS ID: 1355416
Secure: OPEN
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Subject: EVALUATION OF PERSONNEL LEVELS
TAGS: AODE
To: STATE
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